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throughout other public and utilitarian institutions.

The temper of the time is toward an easy-going way, toward the moving-picture show, toward the historical novel instead of the study of history, toward the translations instead of the classics. All of this is really leading us toward an ignoble conception of life. We, as librarians, must take the future somewhat seriously, and whatever of high endeavor we plan we ought to carry through.

Vice-President WELLMAN: We have listened with pleasure to the forecast of library progress of the future, and we shall now recur to library progress in the near past.

You may remember that in 1907 Miss Anne Wallace, then librarian of Atlanta, now Mrs. Howland of Boston, read a paper summarizing library progress in the South to that date. We shall have the pleasure of having this record brought to the present by Miss Wallace's successor, Miss KATHARINE H. WOOTTEN of Atlanta.

LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT IN THE SOUTH SINCE 1907

"The American library is no longer a mere house of books sleepily reposing on a side street. It is no longer static. It is dynamic." So said the syndicated Frederic J. Haskin in a recent article on the American library, and these words describe accurately the library condition of the southern states.

At the Asheville conference in 1907 Miss Anne Wallace, of blessed library memory, reminded you that, in spite of vastness of territory, absence of many large cities which act as centers of culture, a large rural population, in an agricultural section, which lives out of doors at least nine months of the year, library progress since 1899 had been greater in the South and in the Middle West than in any other sections of the country, and, speaking now for the South, it is gratifying to tell you in 1914 that this development has been

continuous, and has kept pace with the great commercial progress of this section.

While the rapidly increasing population has virtually decreased its area by bringing people nearer together, the good roads movement has served its purpose of facilitating communication, so that the southern farmer is no longer isolated, but is practically a citizen of the nearest city, and has all the privileges of citizenship, except that of paying taxes!

Southern conservatism, with its aversion to paternalism, has finally accepted the free public library as a necessary educational institution, as is shown in the establishment of approximately ninety-one libraries in fourteen southern states since 1907, representing an expenditure of more than \$1,500,000.

Balanced against the now thoroughly awakened appreciation of the public library, the opposition to its development is virtually negligible. The voice raised in protestation that the library is only for the idle rich, the indigent tramp, or the dreamy bookworm is still heard, but it is almost always silenced by the investigation of some nearby public library which the protestant is forced to make, guided by some ever-present library enthusiast, and in most cases the protestations cease, and praise takes the place of blame.

A tribute to the vitality of the public library movement as it has become more and more a part of our daily life in the southern states, has been the winning over to its side of the older generations of educated citizens, men and women. There are I suppose nowhere in America, perhaps nowhere in the world, greater and more persistent readers than are found among this class, who have an inherited tradition that the best works of all literatures are to be read. And from this tradition has come a taste so discriminating that their requests for books are a guide to the libraries, the problem being, in the beginning, how to satisfy them with the

new conditions that they would be bound to meet in public libraries.

The subscription libraries, to which they had been accustomed to go to supplement their own collections of books, were quiet, roomy places in charge of some chosen acquaintance, and it was rather hard for them to readjust themselves to the new order of things which supplanted the old familiar alcoves with strange and uncanny devices; which gave, instead of the familiar printed book list, an unfamiliar card catalog (which device no self-respecting person of the old régime has ever been known to use). Worst of all, in place of the perfectly well-known friend of former days, there were several businesslike young women who met one with polite but firm and incomprehensible questions, and occasionally asked the degrading question if one were in the directory.

For a few years it looked as if the libraries, in gaining the power and freedom and wide-spreading opportunity of municipal support, and a city-wide clientèle, had lost altogether these readers of the older generation, the generation which, in many instances, had made the new library possible by turning over to the city the books and properties of the old association library. But gradually these good friends of former years have come back, one by one, and sometimes in a quiet way, sometimes in outspoken praise, have expressed their conviction that the change was not only better in theory, but that it was becoming agreeable in practice. The winning back of this particular class of readers has been one of the compensations of the last few years of public library service in the South.

One instance that comes to mind is that of the old friend of early conditions who was so pleased with the new system of service that he turned over his very valuable private library to the Carnegie library of Atlanta, saying that it had outgrown a private home, and besides, that it was easier to have a library assistant

find his books for him than to rummage about himself in his uncataloged collection.

Perhaps a word here as to the class of reading in our libraries may not be amiss. A few years ago the Atlanta library was honored by a visit, and a several days' inspection, from Mrs. Salome Cutler Fairchild, who was giving a course of lectures in the Atlanta Library School. She was at that time much interested in the statistics of the class of reading most popular in various libraries. Many of you will remember her report on the subject. After a few days in Atlanta she was beaming with pleasure in her charming way, to have discovered that (the ever-over-shadowing fiction being omitted) literature went far ahead of any other class of reading done in Atlanta. I believe that in most of the libraries she had investigated travel and biography had led.

We explained to her the tradition in the South of the continued study of literature, and could trace with her this direct result.

In a former paragraph quoted from Miss Wallace's Asheville paper, mention was made of the agricultural nature of the southern population, and the nine months of possible outdoor life which had, in the beginning, rather tended to take away from a desire for libraries. There is, however, a counter remark to be made here. The leisure classes in the South seldom pursue actively an agricultural calling. Neither do they spend all their time out of doors, as the summer sun in many of our states urges man and beast to take shelter, and those who are free to do as they like sit behind darkened windows for many hours of the summer day.

I say in all seriousness—and all Southerners in the audience will recognize this phase of our life—that it is to these hours of more or less enforced confinement to the house during the heat of the long summer days, that many of our people owe their wide acquaintance with good books. The heat of the summer has in this way worked in a like manner to the cold of

the northern winter. When man is detained indoors by climatic conditions, a book is his best friend.

Foreign immigration is doing much to spread the gospel of the free book, and while the South has always been, and Heaven grant that we always may be, purely Anglo-Saxon, foreign immigration is, fortunately or unfortunately, drifting southward, and calls for books in alien tongues and for books in easy English are becoming quite frequent in the larger southern libraries. Formerly the only foreign books in even the larger libraries of the South were those used by American students of languages, but now the foreign population makes frequent demands on libraries for literature in their mother tongue. In my own library we have not only a German, French, Italian and Spanish section, but we have recently installed a collection of Hebrew and Yiddish books, and have had some calls for books in Russian and Polish.

It is interesting to note that our Italian section was established at the request of a colony of Italian laborers who came to work in a large manufacturing plant, in some departments of which not a word of English is spoken.

Since the establishment of the library school in Atlanta in 1905 ninety-two young women have been graduated, and of the seventy-five still engaged in library work (matrimony is a post-graduate course recognized by the school) fifty-six are holding positions in southern libraries, and their presence has been a leaven which has done much to appreciably raise the standard of library work.

Besides the graduates of our own school there are a number of graduates of other recognized schools employed in various southern libraries, holding responsible positions and working earnestly toward the betterment of library service.

It is becoming the exception for a small southern town to develop library interest without calling into consultation the nearest experienced library worker, and tak-

ing advantage of his or her experience and advice. Not only is this true of public libraries, but it applies equally to the colleges, which are waking up to the fact that a well-organized library is an important part of the laboratorial equipment.

To be sure, many southern libraries are still in the hands of untrained workers, and many of the older libraries are in the hands of workers whose training was gained in the University of Hard Knocks and Experience. But in many cases no technical training could supplant the excellent service that has been, and is being, given by these gentlewomen of the Old South, who came to their work from homes whose atmosphere of culture they have transplanted to the libraries over which they preside, and I think there is not one of us who would give up their old-time ministrations for those of the most efficient technically-trained library school graduate.

In one southern city the library was not popular with the political powers, so in an economy campaign which was planned the library felt the first blow. The librarian received from a clear sky the thundering news that the library should be closed that very evening, and never reopened. Calmly she received the news, and as calmly opened the library next day at the usual time. In the afternoon came a letter from the mayor, stating that there was no money to operate the library, not even enough to pay her salary. Her reply was that rather than deprive the people of the library privileges, she would give her services free for the next two months. Quietly and calmly she kept about her work, and soon public sentiment overruled the politicians, with the result that not only was the library kept open, and adequate support pledged, but back salary was paid the librarian, her salary was increased, and an extra assistant was employed.

The good roads movement brought about the opening of many libraries to all resi-

dents of the county, and the plan is rapidly spreading throughout most of the southern states. In a locality which boasts so few large cities and a large rural population, this county library system is sure to be a potent factor in future library development.

Kentucky, Alabama, North Carolina, Virginia and Tennessee maintain splendid systems of traveling libraries.

In Georgia the only system is that operated by Mrs. Eugene B. Heard of Middleton, under the auspices of the Seaboard Air Line railroad, along its course through five southern states.

Seven of the twelve states considered here have commissions, with appropriations ranging from \$1,500 to \$6,000 annually.

Kentucky, with its appropriation of \$6,000, is naturally doing the best work through its commission, and is the model to which the other states aspire. Kentucky was the first of the states (1909) to make a direct financial gift to its commission, although Alabama was the first to give state aid to libraries, as in 1907 the Department of History and Archives, which carries on the work generally assigned to a commission, received financial aid from the state.

In 1913 the Tennessee Commission (created in 1909) was superseded by the State Board of Education, which assumed all powers and duties of the commission, except supervision of the traveling library system, which was placed under direction of the state library. Public libraries, as well as the state library, are now under the general supervision of the State Board of Education, through its division of library extension. The state commission still exists in the law, but has no appropriation for active work.

The Georgia Library Commission, created in 1897, was reported at the Asheville conference as being "the poor relation with expectations," and at Minnetonka it was reported as "the poor relation with disappointed expectations." It

is now reported as "the poor relation without expectations," but it still exists as the very lusty foster child of the Carnegie library of Atlanta. Yet, in spite of its financial handicap, the commission has rendered aid to practically every Georgia library through its unsalaried organizer, who has examined and criticized plans, suggested librarians, made out book lists, visited towns which were stirring up library activity (and formulated the channel for the activity to follow), persuaded local architects not to attempt to erect "Greek temples" with a building fund of \$10,000, and finally, possibly because of this activity, the Georgia Commission has had the honor of having its unsalaried, active organizer serve as president of the League of Library Commissions.

I think the North Carolina Commission has the distinction of originating the "package library" idea, which has been taken up so successfully by many states.

The Arkansas Commission was established in 1913, and is the "baby commission" of the League.

Oklahoma, West Virginia, Louisiana, Florida, South Carolina and Mississippi are still without commissions, although in some of these states active steps have been taken which will doubtless lead to their creation.

Every state in the group except Oklahoma, West Virginia, Louisiana and South Carolina has a state association, and while meetings are not invariably held annually, they are at least held actively. As secretary of a struggling state association I can testify to the heart failure which the thought of a coming state meeting brings, and the empty chairs which the word conjures up, but when the actual time of meeting comes we have, instead of the empty chairs, a group of active, earnest librarians, and often "from the least of these" comes the greatest incentive for future work, and the germ of an idea which it takes months to develop.

No large interstate meetings have been held since 1907, although in several cases

two or more neighboring states have held joint meetings, or have so arranged their dates consecutively that attendance at both meetings was encouraged.

In 1913 an interesting feature was added to the activities of library trustees when the Board of the Carnegie library of Atlanta was made the censorship board for moving-picture theaters in the city. The plan has worked so well that already a neighboring city (Chattanooga) has followed the example, with gratifying success.

Without using statistics I have tried to show you that library work in the South now presents no different aspect from that in any other section. The southern librarian meets daily the same problems as do her northern, eastern and western co-workers. She has the same staunch supporters in her work and in her aspirations. She has the same discouragements. She surmounts the same obstacles. She solves the same difficulties, and she solves them, generally, exactly as you do in your own library.

She has the same beneficent patrons to keep in humor. One southern librarian's most generous benefactor insists upon the classification of books according to the color of their binding rather than according to the subject-matter of their contents. Another benefactor buys much of the current fiction and donates it to the local library—after carefully cutting out every fervid love passage, so that when you read a book of her giving you never know "what he said."

That some southern librarians practice rigid library economy is evidenced by the fact that a stamped, self-addressed envelope which was enclosed in a questionnaire, sent out in the interest of this paper, came back containing, not library statistics, but an interesting love letter, all because the postman had failed to note that the typewritten business address had been supplanted by a personal one!

Library facilities for negroes have not been considered here, as the subject was

so fully covered by Mr. W. F. Yust, in his splendid paper presented at the Kaaterskill conference in 1913.

Turning now to the statistical side, a brief summary shows that although more money was given for libraries (\$444,000) in 1912, more buildings were erected (20) in 1910.

In 1907 there were 10 buildings erected, at a cost of \$34,300; in 1908 there were 4 buildings erected, at a cost of \$56,000; in 1909 there were 12 buildings erected, at a cost of \$129,000; in 1910 there were 20 buildings erected, at a cost of \$172,000; in 1911 there were 15 buildings erected, at a cost of \$207,000; in 1912 there were 16 buildings erected, at a cost of \$444,000; in 1913 there were 14 buildings erected, at a cost of \$151,000. North Carolina has erected more public library buildings (28) than any of the states, followed closely by Kentucky, with 24 buildings. The other states vary from no new library buildings to 13 in Georgia.

Summarizing the work in the different states, I present the following figures with the statement that, while they are doubtless not absolutely accurate, they are as nearly so as questionnaires, pleas and appeals for information could make them, and if your own state does not make a splendid showing, just remember that several "somebodies" failed to answer several letters:

Georgia—In 1907 there were eight public libraries occupying their own buildings; there are now twenty-one, representing an aggregate investment of over \$700,000. Four colleges have separate library buildings, three from the Carnegie fund. Two interesting bequests have recently been made, that of \$5,000 to be used for a book fund for the proposed library in Eatonton, which came as a gift from a former resident, Mr. W. K. Prudden; and a gift of \$7,000 from Mr. A. K. Hawkes to the city of Griffin, the money to be used for the erection of a children's library in which moving pictures and free lectures shall be featured. The

Mary Willis library in Washington was the first free library, erected and maintained by endowment, and it is still the only endowed library. It is worthy of note that Atlanta and Savannah are the only large cities which have public libraries, as the smaller cities have realized the educational value of libraries before their larger neighbors. Georgia leads in the number of trained workers, with twenty-six graduate librarians. The larger colleges have good libraries and employ trained librarians. The state university, with its branch colleges, boasts excellent library equipment, with book collections of inestimable value, as does Emory College. The state library is in the hands of three trained experts, and the state association and state commission are active bodies, although, as noted elsewhere, there is no state aid for commission work. The only system of traveling libraries is that operated so splendidly by Mrs. Eugene B. Heard, of Middleton, under the auspices of the Seaboard Air Line railroad.

Florida—Has but two free public libraries within its borders, and there are two trained workers, one in the Jacksonville public library, and one at the State College for Women at Tallahassee. It is to the greater credit of the Tallahassee college that it has recognized the value of placing the library on a sound basis, and in charge of a trained librarian, with an annual appropriation of \$2,500 for its book fund, since the state university has only a most inadequate library. In 1907 it was reported that the state library was only theoretical, and it seems to exist still only in theory. In 1901 a state library association was formed, with two or three workers in the progressive subscription libraries as members, and a number of teachers who were interested in arousing library activity. The association still exists, but it is naturally not very active. Recent Carnegie bequests amounting to \$88,000 to seven Florida cities bespeak an

activity which will soon change the library status of Florida.

Louisiana—Reported in 1907 three tax-supported libraries, and the only addition I am able to find is that of the New Orleans public library, to which Mr. Carnegie gave \$275,000 for a main library and three branches, which were completed in 1908. In 1906 the State School Library law was passed, and before 1907 there were 275 libraries established in the rural schools. I am unable to find more recent figures. In 1909 the New Orleans Library Club published an excellent Handbook of Louisiana Libraries, but there seems to have been no later issue.

Alabama—Has maintained the splendid activity which was reported at the Asheville meeting. There are now thirteen free public libraries supported by taxation and sixteen subscription or endowed libraries. Sixteen of the libraries, including colleges, are housed in Carnegie buildings. In 1904 the state association was organized, and in 1907, instead of creating a state commission, the activities of a commission were undertaken by the library extension division of the Department of History and Archives. As the fund for library work is included in the general appropriation of the department the exact figures of financial aid from the state are not available. Since 1911 the division has operated a system of traveling libraries including books for the blind. Several Alabama cities have adopted the county system. The Birmingham public library, with no central building, five branch buildings, and a staff of twelve, operates under the unique system of having a \$10,000 appropriation, none of which may be used for books, which must be secured by gift or public subscription. But the record of this library has been remarkable and shows what can be done in the face of almost unbearable handicaps, when a determined woman, with good training, takes charge.

Tennessee—Had five free public libraries in 1907, and an active state association, and had introduced a bill in the

legislature for the creation of a commission. In 1914 Tennessee has ten municipally-supported libraries, seven of which are in Carnegie buildings; thirteen subscription libraries, and excellent school and college libraries, representing an aggregate investment of over \$2,000,000 for buildings, for the maintenance of which \$85,000 was appropriated in 1913. The state commission was created in 1909, but in 1913 by an act of the legislature the State Board of Education was made to supersede the free library commission, assuming all of their powers and duties except their system of traveling libraries, which was placed under the direction of the state library. Public as well as school libraries are now under the general direction of the State Board of Education through their division of library extension. The state free library commission still exists in the law, but has no appropriation for active work. The county library idea is spreading fast, and the public library of Chattanooga was, I think, the first to adopt the plan.

North Carolina—Has now seventy-five libraries, thirty-nine of which are public. Twelve are in Carnegie buildings, erected at a cost of \$241,396. The total amount invested in libraries is \$351,296. When the commission was created in 1909 there were three trained librarians; there are now eleven, not including graduates of summer schools and apprentice classes. The state association was organized in 1904. An appropriation of \$1,500 is made for the work of the commission. Many state institutions and colleges have adequate libraries, and the library of the state university is under the direction of a corps of trained workers. A summer school is conducted by the state university library, and instruction in library methods is given in several colleges.

South Carolina—Is still without a library association or commission, although since 1907 five public libraries have been opened, and \$45,000 expended in library buildings, and there has been

a library law since 1903. There are at least four trained librarians, and the system of rural school libraries is adequate. Only two libraries are municipally supported. The University of South Carolina boasts of being the first college in the United States to have a separate building, and that seventy-five years elapsed before any other state university followed its example. Throughout the small subscription libraries are literary collections rivaled only by those stored throughout Virginia. Active work has been begun towards establishing a state commission and organizing a state association, and in January, 1914, Mr. R. M. Kennedy, librarian of the University of South Carolina, presented before several clubs and teachers' institutes a strong plea for a betterment of library conditions, which will probably result in a changed state of affairs.

Virginia—One Virginia librarian says: "As usual Virginia is in a position to seem more backward than she is because she has neglected to keep records of her work. No library statistics for the state have ever been compiled." Although Virginia has a liberal library law which permits any town or county to tax itself to maintain a library, and the very active state library has conducted an apprentice training class since 1905, there are but two municipally-supported libraries, in Carnegie buildings. There are in all eight public libraries, two of which are endowed, the others being subscription libraries of many years' existence. The book collections in many Virginia colleges are invaluable, but there is not a technically-trained librarian in the state. The state library, with an appropriation of \$30,000, renders efficient service, and the State Library Board acts as a commission. There is an appropriation of \$4,000 for the publication of the valuable *Virginiana*, undertaken by the state library. In 1913 a legislative reference department was created. The state association was organized before 1907, and now has seventy-

five members. As early as 1903 a system of traveling libraries was established, for which the legislature of 1906 appropriated \$7,000. In March, 1908, an appropriation of \$5,000 was made to encourage the establishment of permanent school libraries throughout the state, and the latest available statistics give 199 traveling libraries available for rural schools, clubs and communities. In Winchester there is one of the most unique libraries on the continent, for with a population of 6,000, Winchester boasts a library bequest of \$250,000 and a building of cut stone which cost \$140,000 and has a stack capacity of 75,000 volumes. Bequests to Virginia libraries within the past seven years (exclusive of colleges) have amounted to \$308,000, and while the money has not actually been spent, pertinent facts indicate that library work in Virginia has started in the right direction.

West Virginia—Does not present so promising a prospect, as there is not a free public library, municipally supported, in the entire state, and a bill for a free library law presented to the recent legislature failed to pass. There is a good state law for school libraries, and the rural schools have about 225,000 volumes in the school libraries. There are libraries at Huntington, Wheeling, Parkersburg, Fairmount and Charleston, which, as one report said, "purchase a great deal of fiction just like a public library, although they are under control of the Board of Education." There is no state association and no commission, but the club women of the state have become active in the matter, and conditions may soon be changed.

Oklahoma—The first public library was opened in 1901, and before 1907 there were five Carnegie libraries. There are now twenty-two public libraries, sixteen of which are in Carnegie buildings. Thirteen colleges have adequate libraries, as have the state and historical societies. There are three graduate librarians and nine summer school graduates are employed,

and all activities are combining for the creation of a commission. The state association is at present expending its energies on the preparation of a bibliography of the state's history. The sum of \$167,000 has been invested in library buildings since 1907.

Kentucky—Libraries represent an investment of more than \$1,018,000, for the support of which \$159,000 was given in 1913. Fourteen public libraries have been built since 1907. There are now forty-one public libraries, thirteen of which are free and housed in Carnegie buildings. There are seventeen college and special libraries; four of the college libraries are in Carnegie buildings. Book collections are in 2,600 graded schools, but the commission reports that no state institution has an adequate library. The state association was organized in 1907, immediately after the Asheville conference, and the very active commission, for which \$6,000 was appropriated in 1913, maintains excellent traveling libraries, one branch of which is exclusively for the negro population. Berea College also maintains a unique system of traveling libraries, which circulate exclusively among the mountain people.

Texas—The modern library movement in Texas began in 1899, and by 1907 nineteen Carnegie buildings were in use, and there were altogether twenty-two public libraries throughout the state, besides numerous small libraries maintained by women's clubs, which have been so potent a factor in the library development of the state. Since 1907 at least twelve new libraries have been opened, at a total expenditure for buildings of \$488,000, including \$285,000 for the new library building of the University of Texas. Many bequests have been made to Texas libraries, and Houston has recently received \$7,000 to be used exclusively for the purchase of children's books.

Arkansas—Was not grouped with the states reporting in 1907, but it seems well to include it here, and report that there

are now two free public libraries, both Carnegie, representing an expenditure of \$120,000. A state association and state commission were organized in 1912, and active work has begun, to secure an appropriation for the commission.

Mississippi—Also did not report in 1907, but now reports that there is a state association, but no commission. There are nine public libraries, five of which are in Carnegie buildings. Many schools and colleges have more or less adequate libraries, and the state library renders good service. It must be remembered that although Mississippi has a population of 1,800,000 there is not a city in the state having a population of 25,000, and only three cities have over 20,000.

I think it was Oliver Wendell Holmes who said that it matters not so much where you stand, as the direction in which you are going, and library development in the southern states is certainly going in the right direction.

Vice-President WELLMAN: It is a fact of interest that the very first exhibit sent out by the American Federation of Arts was shown in a public library. Since that time there have been many other cases of coöperation between the federation and the libraries, as you will learn, and such coöperation opens vistas of helpfulness to both institutions.

We had expected tonight to hear a word regarding the general aims and educational work of the federation from its president, Mr. Robert W. De Forest, and also somewhat in detail with a lantern, from Miss Mechlin, the secretary. Unfortunately I have to announce that Mr. De Forest writes that he has just been through a convention himself, a convention of the federation, and has returned from Chicago utterly without voice. He writes with great regret—a regret which we share—that he is unable to be present tonight. Your disappointment, however, will be mitigated by the pleasure of know-

ing that at short notice, Mr. Henry W. Kent, secretary of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, of New York, has very kindly consented to come and bring us Mr. De Forest's message.

I take very great pleasure in introducing Mr. HENRY W. KENT.

ADDRESS BY MR. KENT

I ought, perhaps, to say, since Mr. Wellman has introduced me as secretary of another kind of institution, that I am really a very old librarian. I am nearly twenty-five years old in the library service, and I make this statement somewhat to excuse many things I may say that would seem too technical if they came from one who had not been a librarian. I am very much interested in old librarians, and I was particularly interested in the presentation of this book, this roster of the people who came to the first meeting of the Library Association.

I have heard the name of the old librarian spoken of somewhat lightly. He is regarded by some people as being more or less of a fossil and more or less of a slipshod individual, but I think—and I thought particularly when I saw this book placed upon the table—that we ought to have a little more regard for the old librarians. Do we not owe to them our system of classification? Do we not owe to them the very preservation of books? Do we not owe to them the establishment of the greatest libraries of the world? Any other association except our own—and I must believe it is because we are so modest—any other association of professional men would long ago have raised monuments to the librarians of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, to the oldest librarians.

Speaking of accomplishment, I was much interested in what Mr. Bolton said of the trend of library work in this country. While I do not pretend to answer the question that he undertook to lead you to answer for yourselves, I have often wondered whether the trend of the present-day library work is not due to the fact